

THIS IS HOW WE DO IT PT 26
Fall Growth Group Notes Week 6
PASTOR BOB RICE: SUNDAY OCTOBER 21, 2018

Main Text: 1 Peter 3:7

⁷ Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

Ephesians 5:25-33

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church.

³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife *see* that she respects *her* husband.

Review:

Premise: Our Relationships are the sum of a series of interactions that we have with others.

These interactions are judged by the people that we interact with and by God.

Inter-actions-behaviors between

- Inter – between
- Acting – behaviors
- You are an Actor. Starring in a Film called "The Life of ____ (Put your name in there.)
- Your life is being recorded.
- YOU will receive an AWARD for your performances in this life and in the life to come.

- How we INTER ACT towards one another usually determines what kind of relationships we have.
- And the relationships we have determine the quality of life we have.
- THE BIG QUESTION! HOW SHOULD WE ACT or
- HOW DO WE LEARN HOW TO ACT WELL?
- Good News: God gives acting lessons.
- The Bible is an acting book. Church is his acting school.
- It teaches us how to act towards: The cross (Genuflect)
 - God
 - Ourselves
 - Others - Friends and loved ones
 - Enemies

Lesson Notes:

1. One of the most formidable roles that any man has to play is that of THE HUSBAND.
2. What is a husband? A husband is a man in a virtually unbreakable lifelong contract with God to service a woman.
3. The word husband literally means one who cultivates land for profit.
4. Therefore the job of the husband is to cultivate his wife and her surroundings so that she can grow in a healthy way that profit (glorifies) God.
5. The contract actions:
 - Love
 - Honor
 - Cherish
 - Have and hold
 - Comfort
 - Forsake all others
6. The contract conditions:
 - For better or for worse
 - In sickness and in health
 - For richer or for poorer
7. The contract length:

- As long as you both shall live
 - Till death do you part
8. Contract exceptions (what can breach or void the contract)
 - Sexual sin (Matt 5:31-32, 19:9)
 - The unbelieving spouse (1 Cor. 7:10-16)
 - Cases deemed exceptional by elders (1 Cor. 7:10)
 9. Contracts are not needed for good times, but for the worst of times.
 10. Therefore, the husband's role must be fulfilled regardless of his feelings.
 11. The husbands' contract is not primarily between the man and woman but between the man and God.
 12. Marriage can be the most fulfilling aspect of a man's life, or the greatest source of tribulation.
 13. The difference is how YOU ACT.
 14. THE MAN IS THE LEADER THE WOMAN IS A RESPONDER.

❖ **Lesson #1 Be an expert student of your wife.**

1 Peter 3:7a Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding

❖ **Lesson #2 Handle your wife with care** (white glove treatment).

1 Peter 3:7b giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered

❖ **Lesson #3 Sacrifice for your wife like Christ sacrificed for you**
(according to her needs)

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

❖ **Lesson #4 Dress and accessorize your wife for her big date with the Lord** (be her personal prophet, priest, and Pastor)

Ephesians 5:26-27 ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

❖ **Lesson #5 Act to win** (always remember that YOU win the awards for a great performance)

Ephesians 5:28-30 ²⁸So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

❖ **Lesson #6 Always treat your wife as the preeminent relationship in your life.**

Ephesians 5:31a ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,

❖ **Lesson #7 You must be the promoter and champion of intimacy and transparency in your relationship**

Ephesians 5:31b and the two shall become one flesh."

❖ **Lesson #8 Remember the big picture, that you have the honor of playing the role of Jesus Christ before the world.**

Ephesians 5:32 ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

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Questions:

1. From Sunday's Sermon, was there a particular point, comment, or scripture that caught your attention or challenged you?

2. What is a husband? Describe the actions, conditions, duration, and duties of the contract that he is under.

3. What can void the marriage contract?

4. It has been said that women are impossible to understand. Is this true? Discuss how a man can become an expert student of his wife.

5. What does it mean to give honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel? How can a man do it?

6. Other than because God said it, why is it important for a man to sacrifice for his wife? Give some examples of how this can be done.

7. How would you imagine an average marriage would change if men became great personal prophets, priests, and Pastors to their wives? How could a man begin taking on that role with their wives? How could a wife assist in the transition?

8. List some ways that men win when they act well toward their wives?

9. What complications can occur when men don't treat their wives' as the preeminent relationship in their lives'?

10. List some ways that a man can be the promoter and champion of intimacy and transparency in their relationships'. Why is this hard for men to do?
